

18 June 68
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SITUATION INFORMATION REPORT

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

POTENTIAL FOR VIOLENCE

On page seven of the Situation Information Report of 14 June 1968, it was reported that a group from the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), a militant group opposed to the United States policy in Vietnam, planned to join the Poor People's Campaign in Washington, D. C., and demonstrate at the Office of Education on 14 June 1968.

On 14 June 1968 Rudolfo Corky Gonzales, one of the leaders of the Mexican/American contingent and a group of 100 demonstrators, met with representatives of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) at the HEW auditorium. Gonzales was accompanied by one Marc Steiner of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), Washington, D. C. Steiner is reported to have stated that the problems of poverty are caused by the United States capitalist, racist society. Steiner predicted many more riots on campuses throughout the United States similar to the recent riots at Columbia.

At the end of Steiner's speech, Gonzales stated that Steiner would someday be the leader of the "New Lincoln Brigade." Gonzales praised the Lincoln Brigade of the 1930's which had done so much good in Spain in fighting the fascists.

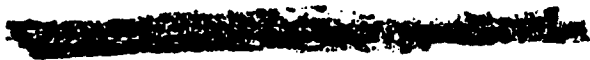
Six unidentified militant negroes were also present at the meeting from Howard University. The negroes made the remark that "King had a dream," but "we have a secret" and in September if these demands are not met, the United States will know the secret.

The meeting at HEW concluded at about 1315 hours and the group of demonstrators retired for a rally of government employees at the Reflecting Pool.

SOURCE: Army

AUTHENTICATION: Reliable

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During the meeting with HEW officials on 14 June 1968, Marc Steiner, cited above, stated that students were now a militant, revolutionary group prepared to fight for the Poor People's Campaign.

SOURCE: FBI cable 15 June 1968, IN 31849

AUTHENTICATION: Reliable

During the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) convention at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, during the week of 10 June 1968, the SDS called for its members to participate in the Solidarity Day march of 19 March 1968 in order to support the Poor People's Campaign and to publicize SDS' own issues such as anti-draft and anti-imperialism. The SDS officialy announced that militants would participate in the Solidarity Day march. The SDS expected federal troops to move against Resurrection City on Solidarity Day and called for a mobilization for that day.

SOURCE: FBI cable 15 June 1968, IN 31947

AUTHENTICATION: An FBI source that has provided reliable information in the past.

COMMENT: Marc Steiner, cited above, is probably identical with Marc Ben Steiner, who is reported to have illegally travelled to Cuba in February 1968. Marc Ben Steiner was in a group of individuals which included William Mark Rudd. This group was identified as a group of members of the Students for a Democratic Society. Mark Rudd was the leading activist in the recent student demonstrations at Columbia University.

A prominent New York City newspaper columnist reportedly received an anonymous telephone call in which the caller claimed to have recently attended a meeting of radicals at Columbia University, New York City, at which time the students were reportedly urged to participate in the Poor People's Campaign demonstration on 19 June 1968. The students were advised to get haircuts, shave, and wear



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conventional clothing in order that they could effectively infiltrate and take over government offices, offices of Congress, and private businesses.

SOURCE: FBI cable dated 15 June 1968, IN 31849

AUTHENTICATION: Unknown

William Rutherford, Executive Director of the SCLC, recently advised Stanley Levinson, SCLC. advisor [REDACTED], that the arrests of members of the mule train in Georgia had played right into the hands of the SCLC. Rutherford also told Levinson that an SCLC staff member in Washington, D. C. . stated that the SCLC was going to try to get Ralph Abernathy arrested and that they are going to move in on the Department of Agriculture and try to take it over.

SOURCE: FBI cable 15 June 1968, IN 31849

AUTHENTICATION: An FBI source who has provided reliable information in the past.